(घ) सातवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना अवधि के दौरान 2.25 लाख हेक्टेयर क्षेत्र में मृदा संरक्षण संबंधी किए गए उपायों पर 55.37 करोड़ रुपए व्यय किए गए हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त, 3042 हेक्टेयर खारे और क्षारीय मृदा क्षेत्र के पुनरुद्धार पर 23 लाख रुपए व्यय किए गए ।

Large/Medium irrigation Projects pending clearance

2637. SHRI VITHAL RAO MADHAVRAO JADHAV: SHRI JAGESH DESAI:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) how many large and medium irrigation projects are pending with his Ministry for clearance:

(b) for how many years these are pending and by what time these are likely to be cleared; and

(c) what are the projects from Maharashtra that are pending with the Central Government for clearance at present and what are the reasons therefor and by when these are likely to be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI MANUBHAI KO-TADIA): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid oh the Table of the House.

Total proceeds of handloom cess collected for 1989-90

2628. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total proceeds towards handloom cess levied on mill cloth under the Additional Excise Duty Act, 1953 collected during 1989-90;

(b) what is the amount spent for handloom industry during 1S89-90: and

(c) what is the amount spent for ; Khadi and village industries during 1989-90?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) No separate statistics is maintained for mill cloth. Total proceeds from handloom cess on on all cloth was Rs. 10. 31 crores during 1989-90. (Provisional)

(b) The amount spent for hand- loom industry during 1989-90 was Rs. 28. 63 crores under Plan and Rs. 191. 44 crores under Non Plan.

(c) Total amount provided during 1989-90 to Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the development }> of Khadi and Village Industries was Rs. 175 crores under Plan and Rs. 229. 5 crores under Non Plan.

Levy of excise duty on cut pieces

2629. SHRI PRAGADA KOTAIAH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to levy excise duty (normal and additional) on the cut pieces coming out of the textile mills in large quanties to improve the financial resources and % reduce its competition with handloom products;

(b) if so, by when such a proposal is likely to be implemented; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI ANIL SHASTRI): (a) to (c) Under the Central Excise Tariff, there is no general exemption from excise duty y on cut pieces. Some selective exemption is, however, available to certain varieties o'f cut pieces commonly known as 'chindies' and fabrics of narrow width. There is no proposal to levy excise duty on such exempted varieties of cut-pieces.